

REMARKS

I. Election Of Group

The Examiner has divided claims 1-10 into four groups pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121:

- I. Claims 1-3, drawn to a compressible linkage suspension system, classified in class 280, subclass 283.
- II. Claims 4 and 5, drawn to a compressible linkage suspension system, classified in class 280, subclass 275.
- III. Claims 6-8, drawn to a compressible linkage suspension system, classified in class 280, subclass 284.
- IV. Claims 9 and 10, drawn to a compressible linkage suspension system, classified in class 280, subclass 285.

Applicant provisionally elects Group IV (claims 9 and 10) for immediate prosecution with traverse.

Applicant respectfully traverses the requirement for restriction according to the Communication. Applicant submits that the restriction should be withdrawn because "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." The claims in all four groups fall into the same class and Applicant submits that the search and examination of all claims "can be made without serious burden", *supra*.

Applicant also submits that the subject claims do not relate to inventions properly classified as "independent and distinct" pursuant to section 121. For example, the MPEP provides that independent inventions are considerably distinct ("An article of apparel such as a shoe, and a locomotive bearing would be an example. A process of painting a house and a process of boring a well would be a second example." MPEP §806.04).

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the requirement for restriction be withdrawn and that all claims be examined together.

II. Conclusion

If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the Application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4382.

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Respectfully submitted,



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